

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 21 with the following replacement paragraph:

C₁ In the area of the one transverse wall 4, two pressure switches 7 and 9 for lifting and lowering the lifting platform and arranged at a distance to each other and an emergency off switch 8 arranged between them are mounted. At a distance to the switches, a safety switch 10 is arranged in the area of the other transverse wall 4, which safety switch must be operated together with the corresponding pressure switch 7 or 9 for lifting or lowering the lifting platform [[30]]. The distance between the pressure switches 7 and 9 for lifting and lowering and the safety switch 10 is selected so that they cannot be operated with one foot. For lifting and lowering the lifting platform [[30]], the pressure switch 7 or 9 and the safety switch 10 must be operated simultaneously with one foot, respectively. Thus, an unintended operation of the lifting platform is prevented. The emergency off switch 10 may also be arranged in the central area, as illustrated in Figs. 3 and 5. In addition, another foot switch 17 for activating a control voltage may be provided. The foot switch 17 is operated after an operation of the emergency off switch to re-establish the operable state. For preventing an unintended activation, the foot switch 17 may be disposed in a slightly sunken manner.